

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *Vper DS*DATE: March 24, 1954 *113*

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: FRANK WISNER
CIAALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-29-86 BY SP6/ELW/60

Tolson ☒
 Ladd ☒
 Nichols ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Clegg ☒
 Glavin ☒
 Harbo ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Tracy ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Winterrowd ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holloman ☒
 Miss Gandy ☒

Don Surine called me and advised me in confidence of the following:

During the war years Wisner was an OSS officer assigned to Bucharest. He became acquainted with a Roumanian woman named Tanda Caragea, whom Surine stated was described as a "infomaniac." She is reported to be a very beautiful, redhaired woman with green eyes and at one time she had been a German-agent. The American Military Mission, however, took over several houses in Bucharest, including hers and Frank Wisner lived with her in Bucharest. At that time she was a Russian agent and her married name was Bragdero.

Surine advised that while at her home, Wisner set up a short wave radio station which Surine stated he has been informed was used to put out pro-Russian material. In 1945 Wisner requisitioned an Army plane to pick up medical supplies in Switzerland. Tanda went with the plane, picked up the medical supplies and upon return half of the supplies were turned over to the Red Cross. The other half was sold to the Soviet Union and Wisner and Tanda split the money. Surine stated that he has now got the names of some witnesses who can testify to these things and mentioned that a Roumanian named [redacted]

[redacted] was one. He is still a very wealthy man and he had originally had a set up to make oil pipe line; however, this was blocked by Wisner. Further, he stated that another Roumanian named Max Ausnit is close to Wisner. Ausnit is a millionaire many times over and reportedly was involved in the [redacted] vice case in New York and is reported to use vice to get control of various officials. He got his money out of Roumania to England and then to the United States and is a bitter enemy of [redacted]. [redacted] is reported to be ready to testify pertaining to Wisner.

Another witness is [redacted] who now resides at [redacted]

[redacted] He is reportedly ready and willing to talk about Wisner and Tanda. [redacted] can furnish the name of an Army Sergeant who now lives in Texas [redacted]

Tanda is alleged to have "made sexy passes" at the Sergeant, who reportedly did not fall for them.

cc - Mr. Boardman
cc - Mr. Belmont

LBN:ptm

RECORDED - 60
INDEXED - 60
APR 9 1954
EX-113 3-30-54
62-97311-6
5-1000
PERS. FILE

Memorandum for Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

RE: FRANK WISNER
CIA

b7D

Surine thought that in view of Wisner's strategic position, this was something we should know about. We have had previous allegations on Wisner. You will recall [] made the same allegations some years ago regarding Wisner. CIA did have, as I recall, an explanation; however, it is suggested that the foregoing information be checked so that a determination can be made as to whether we have any responsibilities.

[Handwritten marks: a checkmark and a flourish]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE:

January 5, 1954

FROM : V. P. K

SUBJECT: GENERAL LUCIUS CLAY;
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Declassify on: CADR

248,083

Classified by

Declassify on: CADR

ACTION

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Zoo
155ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

FRANK WISNER

As you know, the captioned individual allegedly played an important part in the appointment of Cabinet and sub-Cabinet positions in the present Administration. On December 31, 1953, Liaison Agent Papich examined a report which had been prepared for James Angleton of the CIA [redacted]

[redacted] Set forth is the pertinent information obtained from the examination. (S-1) (S) classified per CIA letter 10-27-88

[redacted] indicated that she had been talking to [redacted] who in turn had told her that he had been seeing General Clay on several occasions. [redacted] told her that Clay was very much upset because the White House was backing Margaret Biddle to succeed Ambassador Dillon in France. [redacted] informed her that Margaret Biddle had contributed very heavily to the Republican Party and that she was receiving considerable support from "Kingman Douglas and Co." For your information, Kingman Douglas is a [redacted] New York socialite. [redacted] commented to [redacted] that Douglas was supporting Biddle because the latter had enabled him to purchase some very valuable mining stock. (S-1) (S) classified per CIA letter 10-27-88

[redacted] quoted Clay as stating that John Foster Dulles would be finished within the next few months. (S-1) (S) classified per CIA letter 10-27-88

[redacted] then commented on her visit with General William Donovan, former OSS Chief and presently U. S. Ambassador to Thailand. She quoted Donovan as stating "Beetle" Smith was "a very sick man." She also noted that Donovan had been in contact with Admiral Hillenkoetter, former CIA Chief, and Hillenkoetter had stated that he had been in contact with Senators regarding CIA security. Hillenkoetter was quoted as stating that Frank Wisner of the CIA "had to go." According to [redacted] Donovan stated that Wisner "was in awful shape." He made particular reference to the poor security in the CIA. In this connection he stated that the [redacted] Wisner was enough. (S-1) (S) classified per CIA letter 10-27-88

With regard to Frank Wisner, the latter is a Deputy Director of CIA. He has been a controversial figure for that agency because of his allegedly close association with a Rumanian girl who was reported to have been a Soviet agent. This association took place while Wisner was connected with the OSS. Wisner has also been the object of animosity by some Rumanians in this country. Recently it

SJP:lw

SECRET

(S-1) (S)

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JAN 3 10 29 PM '54

FOI/PA # 248085
APPEAL #
CIVIL ACT. #
E.O. # 12350
DATE 12/11/84

2-11/15/54 2

RECEIVED-LAD
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JAN 5 6 10 PM '54

(u) (S-1) in CIA
Class. retained per CIA LTR 1/22/89
CLASSIFICATION UPHOLD PER CIA LETTER
254103 DATED 10/27/88

FOI/PA # 248085
APPEAL #
CIVIL ACT. #
E.O. # 12256
DATE 10-13-82 INITIALS 92/150

(u) (S-1) CIA (\$)(u)
SP4 clw/mg 11/15/89 CA 88-1826
Classified by SP1 AG SC
Declassify on: OADR 10/13/87
254103

9803 RDD/mg
4/26/93 C.A. # 88-1P16
SP4 clw/mg
6/23/94 C.A. # 88-1P16
ALL CLASSIFICATION PER
CIA REVIEW OF 6/2/94
AND RELEASE MADE
IN 190-50579 (OFFICE)

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JAN 6 3 16 PM '54

(U)

3

Memo to Belmont

Re: General Lucius Clay;
Central Intelligence Agency
Information Concerning

~~SECRET~~ (U)

was alleged that Wisner was being blackmailed by the Rumanians.

(U) The Bureau referred this information to the CIA. (S) (U) (S)

(U) On December 31, 1953, Angleton advised that Senator McCarthy allegedly is in possession of information indicating that Wisner may have been involved in some questionable transactions pertaining to the sale of U. S. ships immediately after the end of the war. Wisner allegedly made a huge profit. Angleton stated that he did not know the details of this matter. (S) (U) (S)

Classified PER
CINCLER 44 10-27-88

Comment:

It is very likely that the case of Wisner will stir up action on the part of Senator McCarthy's committee during this next session of Congress.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

~~SECRET~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MR. A. H. BELMONT

January 11, 1954

MR. V. P. KEAY

INFORMATION CONCERNING

On January 4, 1954, Allen Dulles of CIA, advised Liaison Agent Papich that the captioned individual recently had called on him to advise he had been interviewed by Bureau Agents regarding Frank Wisner, Deputy Director of CIA. [redacted] told Dulles he was most surprised to learn the Bureau would be investigating a top official of CIA and he wanted Dulles to be apprised of the situation. Dulles inquired if the Bureau had questioned [redacted] concerning Wisner. *Remain classified per CIA letter 10-27-88*

The Liaison Agent directed Dulles' attention to Bureau letter dated November 18, 1953, which set forth the results of an interview with [redacted]. This communication consisted of information pertaining to Wisner. It was further pointed out to Dulles that [redacted] was interviewed concerning other matters in addition to Wisner and if the captioned individual was endeavoring to convey any impression that the Bureau was conducting an investigation outside of its jurisdiction, he was way off base. After Dulles' attention was directed to the November 18 letter, he stated he recalled the communication and he clearly understood the situation. He stated he was not raising any questions whatsoever. *31(e) Remain classified per CIA letter 10-27-88*

For your information, [redacted] was the subject of a Voice of America investigation conducted by the Bureau in 1949. Information was developed indicating that [redacted] had been responsible for the removal of the "Goebbels Diaries" from the European Command without proper authority and with the intention of profiting from the removal. This allegedly took place while [redacted] was in the U. S. Army. Bureau files also indicated that [redacted] had allegedly furnished classified documents to an unauthorized individual. On November 9, 1953, former Agent W. C. Nulty, presently with the investigative staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee, furnished the Bureau information concerning Frank Wisner and other individuals. It was developed that the original source of this information was [redacted]. [redacted] was interviewed by the Bureau on November 12, 1953, and the information pertaining to Wisner was transmitted to CIA by letter dated November 18, 1953.

ACTION: None. This is being submitted for record purposes. In the future, any dealings with [redacted] will be handled in a very circumspect manner.

SJP:lw;mpm
1 - 62-97311
1 - 65-59628

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Gearty
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
 Sizoo
Miss Gandy

67 JAN 29 1954

NOT RECORDED
189 JAN 20 1954
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~